STan Lee PRESENTS!

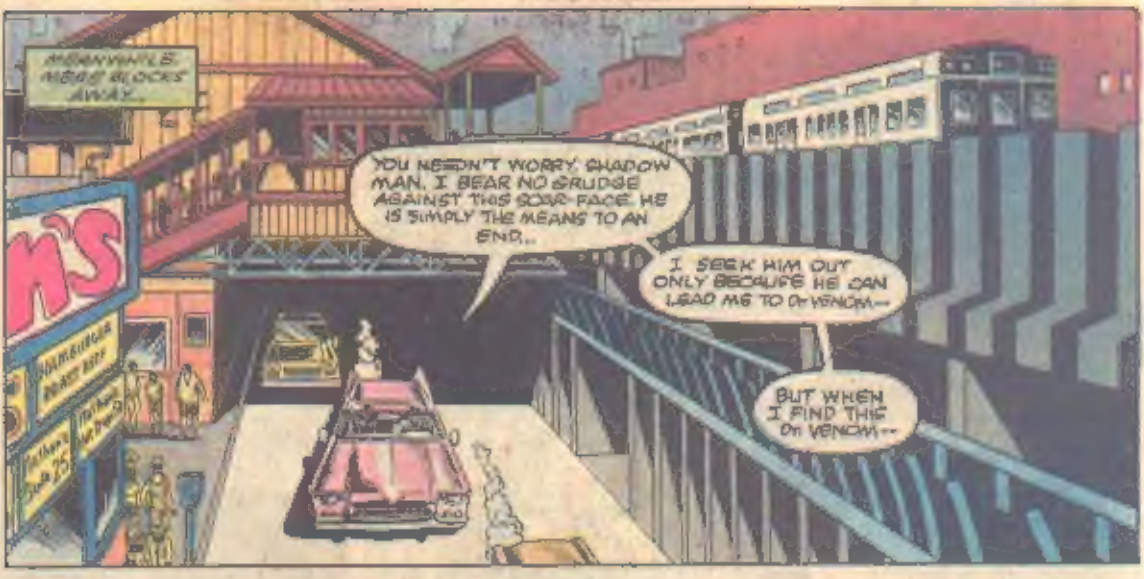
G.I. JOE A REAL AMERICAN HERO

DESTRO RETURNS!

G.I. JOE is A REAL AMERICAN HERO™ Vol. 1, No. 18, December 1983. Published by MARVEL COMICS GROUP, James F. Galton, President, Stan Lee, Publisher, Michael Hobson, Vice-President, Publishing, Mikon Schiffman, Vice-President, Production. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. Application to mail at second class postage rates is pending at New York, NY and additional mailing offices. Published monthly. G.I. JOE, HAWK, SCARLETT, DESTRO, ROCK N ROLL, CLUTCH, FLASH, ACE, SNAKE-EYES, STALKER, TORPEDO, WILD BILL, AIR BORNE, TARGET, and COBRA COMMANDER are trademarks of HASBRO INDUSTRIES, INC. and the likenesses of the characters in which those names are applied are the property of HASBRO INDUSTRIES, INC., and the trademarks and likenesses are used with permission of HASBRO INDUSTRIES, INC. G.I. JOE® Copyright © 1983 by HASBRO INDUSTRIES, INC. All rights reserved. All other material copyright © 1983 by Marvel Comics Group, a division of Cadence Industries Corporation. All rights reserved. Price 60¢ per copy in the U.S. and 75¢ in Canada. Subscription rate $7.20 for 12 issues. Canada and Foreign, $9.20. Printed in the U.S.A. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. Postmaster: Send address changes to Subscription Dept., Marvel Comics Group, 387 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10016.

THAT'S NO SURPRISE. COBRA'S GOT A GOOD REASON TO BE SNOOPING AROUND HERE.
HOW ABOUT FILLING THE REST OF US IN ON THE SITUATION, HAWK--
--OR IS IT STILL A SECRET?
"IT'S NOT REALLY A SECRET, CLUTCH...
CYCLONE
"I JUST DIDN'T WANT TO GET EVERYBODY'S HOPES UP...
"BUT IF THIS GUY IS WHO I THINK HE IS..."
"AND HE IS!"
"WELCOME TO COBRA ISLAND, 'SCAR-FACE'!"
I RECEIVED A POST CARD AT THE "PIT" YESTERDAY...
...IT WAS SUPPOSEDLY FROM A FRIEND WE'D GIVEN UP ALL HOPE FOR. BUT IT COULD HAVE BEEN A COBRA TRAP. ENTER, SCAR-FACE. WOULD COBRA BAIT A TRAP WITH DR. VENOM'S EX-COURIER? A MAN WHO KNOWS COBRA'S DEEPEST SECRETS? I DOUBT IT...
-- SO I GUESS THIS POST CARD REALLY IS FROM SNAKE-EYES!
SAY WHAT?!
SNAKE-EYES? ALIVE? WHAT?
I DON'T BUY IT! IT COULD STILL BE A TRAP!

IT'S THE POST-SCRIPT THAT'S THE CLINCHER...
...BUT IT'S PERSONAL... FOR SCARLETT'S EYES ONLY
Laura,
Meet me at the coaster at Coney. Bring friends. I'm bringing mine.
Cheers,
S.E.
P.S.
SNAKE-EYES IS ALIVE. H-HE'S THE ONLY ONE THAT WOULD KNOW THIS...
IF THAT'S GOOD ENOUGH FOR SCARLETT, IT'S GOOD ENOUGH FOR ME. LET'S GET ON WITH THE MISSION!
YO, TORPEDO... BREAK OUT THE MANTA* AND LET'S GET SOME PLANING ACTION GOING...
SURE THING, ROCK'N ROLL...
*MARINE ASSAULT NAUTICAL TRANSPORT (AIR DRIVEN)
...THIS SNAKE-EYES MUST REALLY BE SOMETHING, HUH? I NEVER MET HIM, BUT I HEAR HE'S FIERCE--
NAAAA...HE'S REALLY VERY SWEET...
...ASK HIM TO SHOW YOU HIS COLLECTION OF SPIKE-KNUCKLED TRENCH-KNIVES!
THAT'S THE COASTER BELOW US, DESTRO. I'M SWITCHING OVER TO VTOL* MODE FOR FINAL DESCENT.
SET ME DOWN ON THE HIGHEST HILL. I DON'T WANT SCAR-FACE TO HEAR THE JET-BLASTS...
*VERTICAL TAKE-OFF AND LANDING.
AH, THE G.I. JOE TEAM HONORS US WITH THEIR PRESENCE...
SHALL I STRAFE THEM AFTER YOU DE-PLANE?
NO. RETURN TO SPRINGFIELD. I'LL HANDLE THIS... PERSONALLY.


MEANWHILE, MEGA BLOCKS AWAY...
YOU NEEDN'T WORRY, SHADOW MAN. I BEAR NO GRUDGE AGAINST THIS SCAR-FACE. HE IS SIMPLY THE MEANS TO AN END...
I SEEK HIM OUT ONLY BECAUSE HE CAN LEAD ME TO Dr VENOM--
BUT WHEN I FIND THE Dr VENOM--

-- THEN YOU'LL HAVE SOMETHING TO WORRY ABOUT.

SEE SOMETHING INTERESTING, ROCK 'N ROLL?
YEAH, I JUST HOPE HAWK SEES IT, TOO!

HAWK! THAT COBRA PLANE...
IT'S HOVERING OVER THE ROLLER-COASTER--
THE PLANE'S NOT THE IMPORTANT THING. IT'S THE COBRA CREEP CLIMBING OUT OF IT...

"...I CAN SEE THE SUNLIGHT GLARING OFF THAT STAINLESS STEEL MASK FROM HERE!
"THAT'S DESTRO...
"AND HE'S HEADING FOR 'COASTER UTILITY SHED THAT SCAR-FACE CALLS HOME!
"DOLLARS TO DOUGHNUTS, DESTRO'S THE LAST PERSON ON EARTH SCAR-FACE WANTS SHOWING UP AT HIS FRONT DOOR RIGHT THIS MOMENT..."
DESTRO...
I DON'T THINK HE'S GONNA BE TOO CRAZY ABOUT SEEING US, EITHER!
YOU THINK HE'S GONNA BE OVERJOYED TO SEE KWINN AND SNAKE-EYES? THIS IS A VERITABLE REUNION OF THE "HAVE-IT-IN-FOR-SCAR-FACE-CLUB"!
LOOKIT! A GARBAGE-SCOW WITH WHEELS!
DON'T GET TOO CLOSE, TIMMY... YOU'LL CATCH A DISEASE...

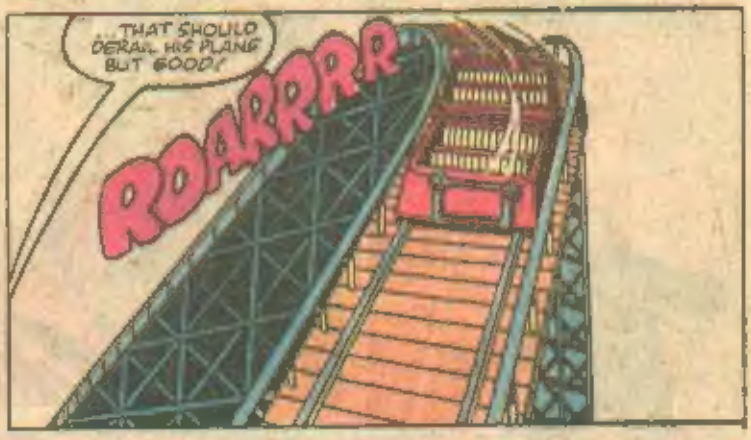
THIS IS THE PLACE, SHADOW-MAN! YOU CAN WAIT OUT HERE IF YOU LIKE, BUT I WOULD RECOMMEND COMING INSIDE WITH ME! THE POSSIBILITIES FOR AN AMUSING TIME ARE FAR GREATER
CYCLONE
FASTER THAN EV

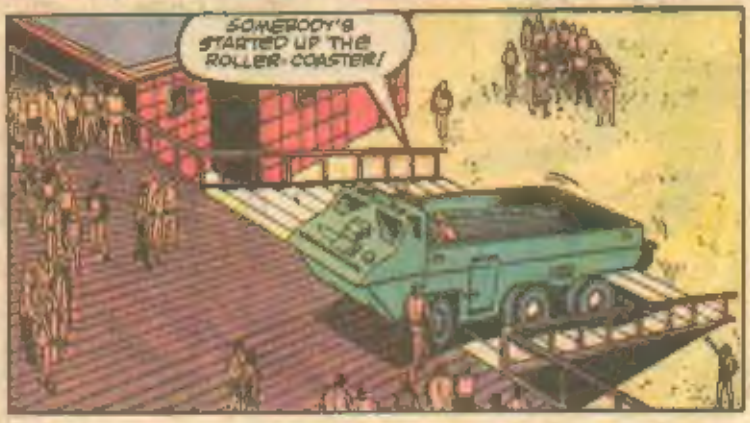
HOLD TIGHT, ROCK 'N ROLL, I'M GONNA BEACH THIS SUCKER!
HEY, BRENDA— GET A LOAD OF THIS...

YOU GUYS SAIL THAT THING ALL THE WAY FROM MALIBU?
NAAA. JUST FROM STATEN ISLAND. MIND WATCHING IT FOR US 'TIL WE GET BACK?

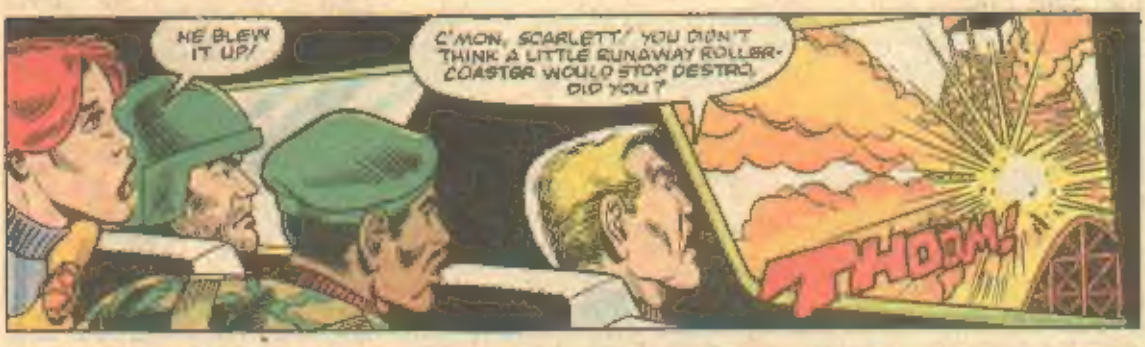
SURE! DON'T TAKE TOO LONG!

SO, THE MIGHTY DESTRO THINKS HE'S GONNA FIX MY WAGON, HUH?
WELL, I'VE GOT SOME-THING FOR HIM...


THAT SHOULD DERAIL HIS PLANS BUT GOOD!
ROARRRR


SOMEBODY'S STARTED UP THE ROLLER-COASTER!

COME, SHADOW MAN! I WILL TEACH YOU THE FINER POINTS OF INTERROGATION...
...ONE MUST USE SUBTLETY AND FINESSE
WHAM
"ONE MUST GAIN THE TRUST OF THE SUBJECT AND MANIPULATE THEIR EMOTIONAL WEAKNESS LULLING THEM INTO A DANGEROUSLY-FALSE SENSE OF SECURITY...
"...ONE MUST BE SOFT AND HARD SIMULTANEOUSLY."
GOOD MORNING, SCAR-FACE! NICE DAY, ISN'T IT?
SO MUCH FOR THE SOFTNESS...
NOW YOU'VE GOT THREE SECONDS TO TELL ME WHERE I CAN FIND Dr. VENOM...
"...BEFORE I BEGIN TO TEAR YOU APART IN A MANNER TOO PAINFUL TO COMPREHEND..."
VOOOSH!


HE BLEW IT UP!
C'MON, SCARLETT! YOU DIDN'T THINK A LITTLE RUNAWAY ROLLER-COASTER WOULD STOP DESTRO, DID YOU?
THOOM!

SHEESH! IT'S RAININ' ROLLER-COASTER PARTS!
TOO BAD. BETTER IF IT WERE RAINING DESTRO PARTS!

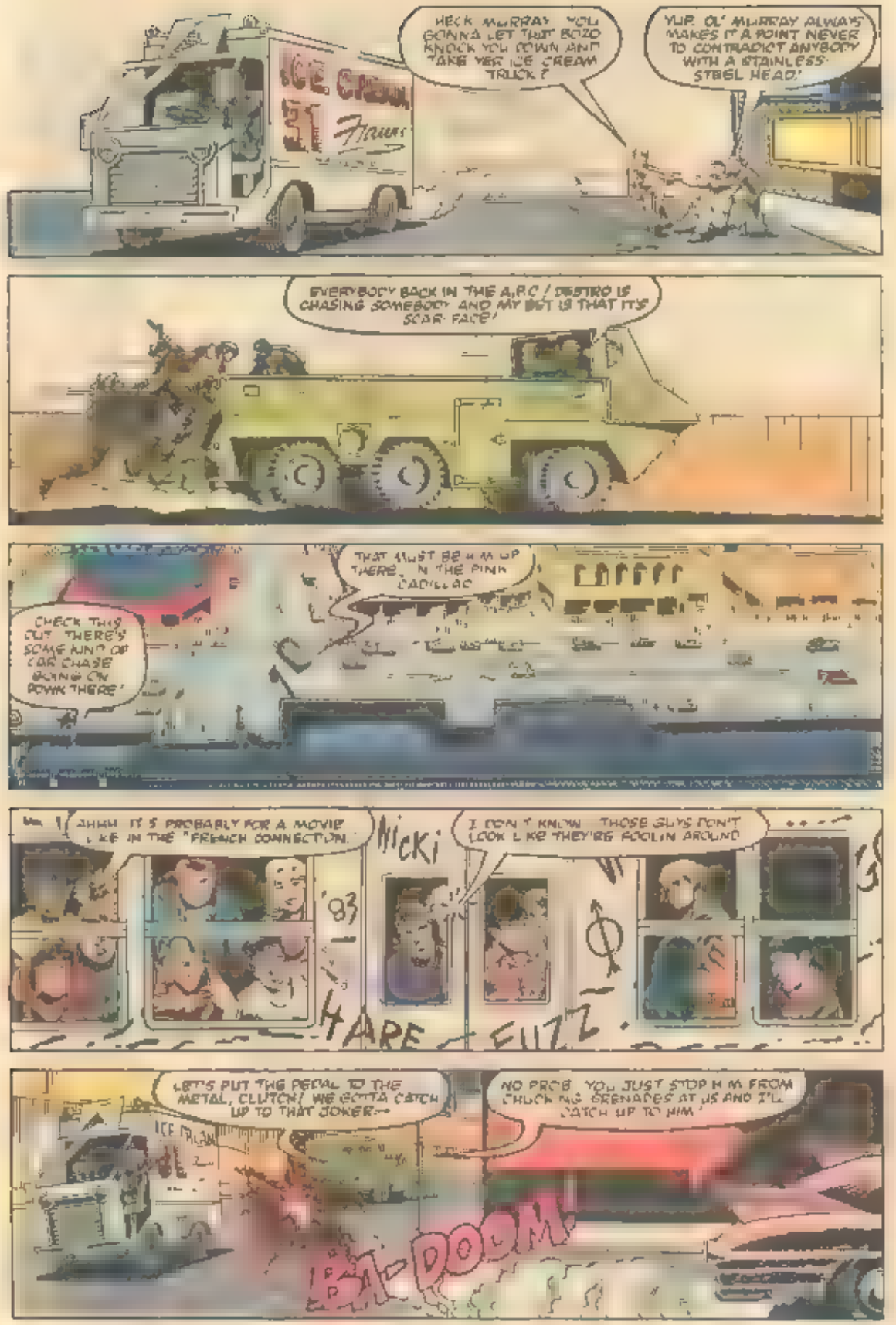
WELL, IF SCAR-FACE WASN'T SPOOKED BEFORE, HE SURE IS BY NOW!
HE'LL MAKE A RUN FOR IT...
IT'LL HAVE TO BE ON FOOT. HE PULLED UP IN A TAXI...

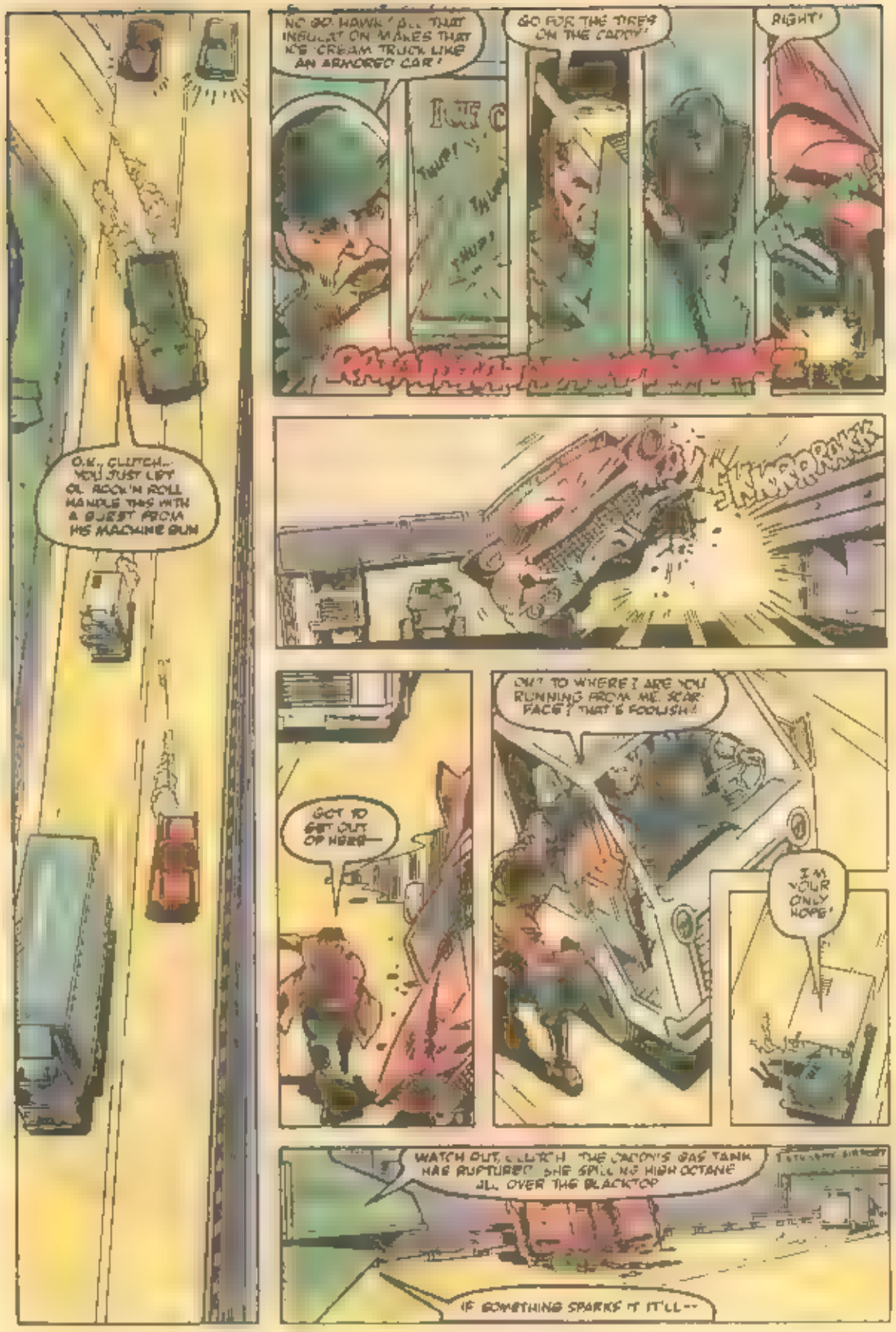
...I'VE TOLD YOU EVERY-THING... ARE YOU STILL GOING TO KILL ME?
NO, THERE'S A PINK CADILLAC OUT FRONT--
-TAKE IT AND GET OUT OF HERE!

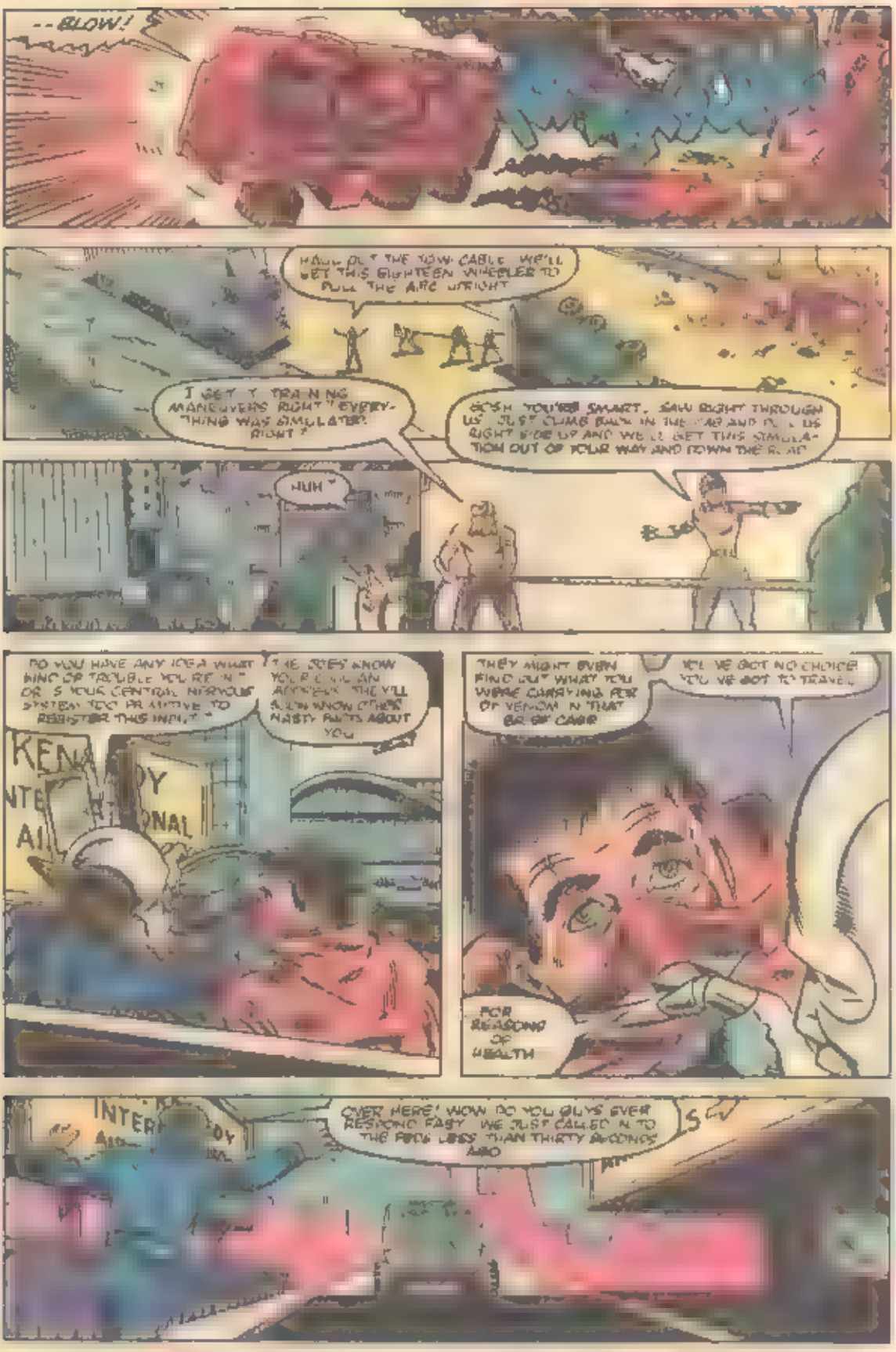
BLAST! THE JOES ARE HERE... AND SCAR-FACE IS BOLTING OUT THE BACK DOOR!

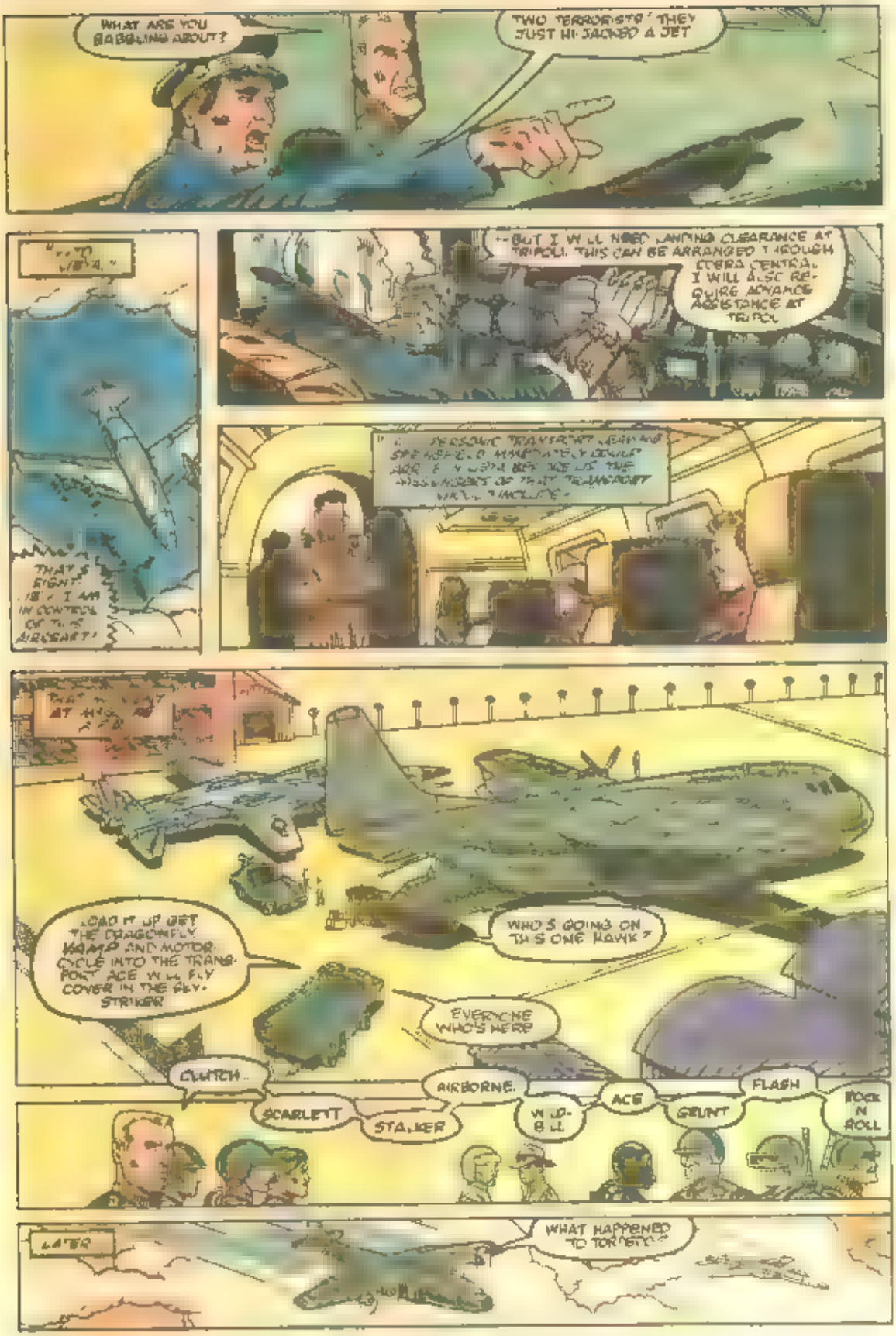
DESTRO'S GOING TO MAKE IT TO THE SHED FIRST!
ATLANTIC
NOT IF I CAN HELP IT!
FOR SALE
LAY DOWN A FIELD OF FIRE! MAKE HIM TAKE COVER!
RATATATATATATATATATAT
TAKE COVER? WE'LL SEE WHO TAKES COVER FIRST!
VOOOSH!
HE'S FORCING US TO EAT DIRT, HAWK!
IT'S A LOT TASTIER THAN SHRAPNEL, STALKER!
SPREAD OUT! DON'T BUNCH UP! KEEP LOW AND RETURN AIMED FIRE!
STALKER AND SCARLETT, TAKE THE SHED! EVERYBODY ELSE SWITCH TO FULL AUTO AND GIVE THEM CONTINUOUS COVER-FIRE!

INSIDE THE SHED...
WELL, SHADOW MAN...IT IS TIME FOR YOU TO DECIDE. YOUR FRIENDS ARE JUST OUTSIDE. ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS WAIT FOR THEM HERE.
OR YOU CAN COME WITH ME TO FIND Dr. VENOM.
YOW! THAT CADDY JUST MISSED ME!
DIDJA RECOGNIZE THAT CREEP, MURRAY? WAS HE FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD?
A MASKED GUY WITH TWO SCARS ACROSS HIS MUG? MAN, EVEN IF I KNEW HIM, I WOULDN'T KNOW HIM.
DRUGS
SCREEECHHH
POW! POW! POW!
RIDES
THESE TIN SOLDIERS HAVE DELAYED ME NEEDLESSLY! MY QUARRY ESCAPES!
FORGET ABOUT DESTRO FOR THE MOMENT! TAKE THE SHED!
SOMEBODY ALREADY SMASHED THE DOOR!
ALL THE BADDIES FOR US! LET'S TAKE IT.
--NOW!
...EMPTY.

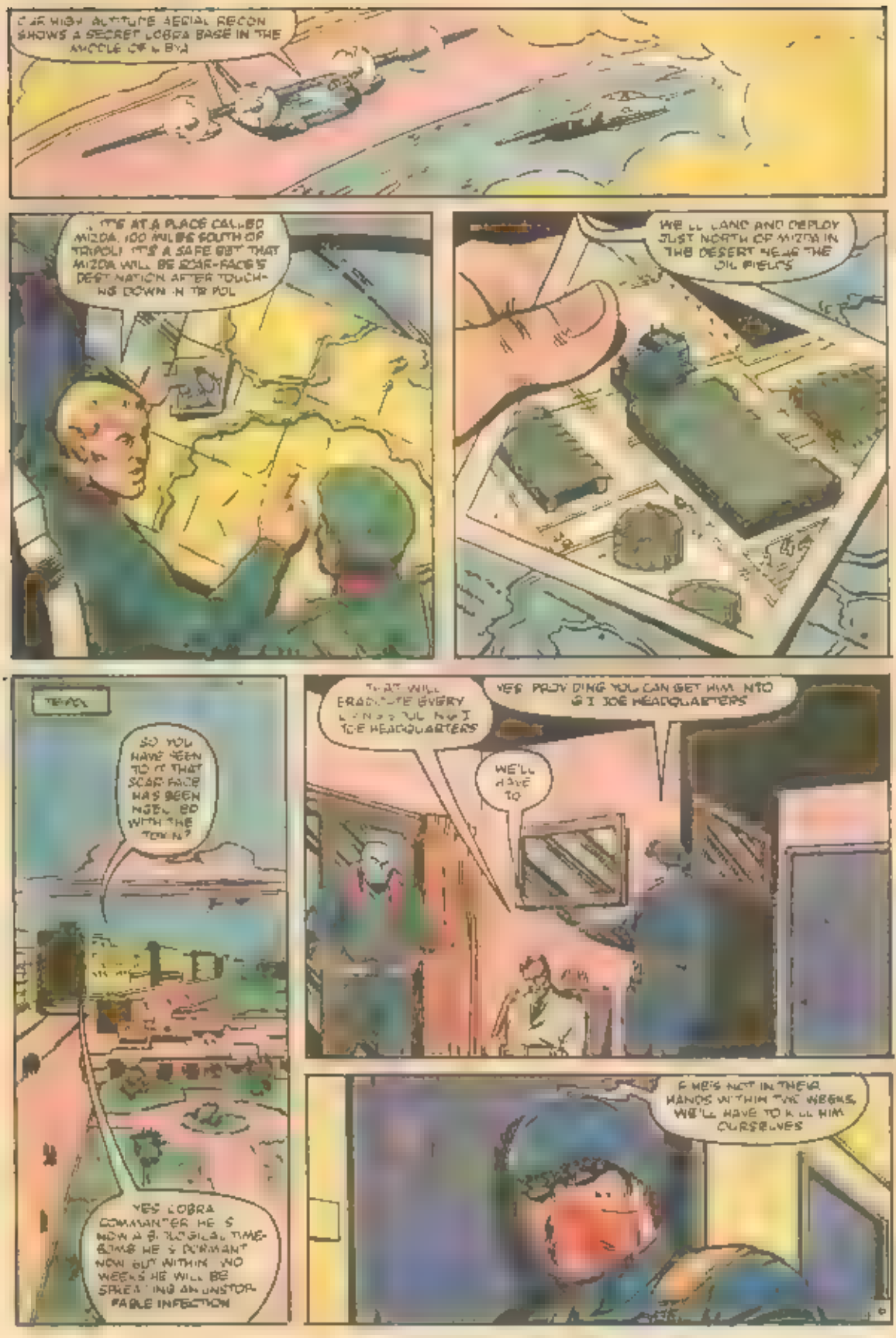

ICE CREAM
Flavors
HECK MURRAY! YOU GONNA LET THAT BOZO KNOCK YOU DOWN AND TAKE YER ICE CREAM TRUCK?
YUP. OL' MURRAY ALWAYS MAKES IT A POINT NEVER TO CONTRADICT ANYBODY WITH A STAINLESS STEEL HEAD!
EVERYBODY BACK IN THE A.P.C. / DESTRO IS CHASING SOMEBODY AND MY BET IS THAT IT'S SCAR-FACE!
CHECK THIS OUT. THERE'S SOME KIND OF CAR CHASE GOING ON DOWN THERE!
THAT MUST BE H.M. UP THERE... IN THE PINK CADILLAC
No. 1
AHHH. IT'S PROBABLY FOR A MOVIE LIKE IN THE "FRENCH CONNECTION."
Micki
'83
I DON'T KNOW... THOSE GUYS DON'T LOOK LIKE THEY'RE FOOLIN AROUND
HARE FUZZ
LET'S PUT THE PEDAL TO THE METAL, CLUTCH! WE GOTTA CATCH UP TO THAT JOKER--
NO PROB. YOU JUST STOP H.M. FROM CHUCKING GRENADES AT US AND I'LL CATCH UP TO HIM!
KA-DOOM!


O.K., CLUTCH-- YOU JUST LET OL' ROCK'N ROLL HANDLE THIS WITH A BURST FROM HIS MACHINE GUN
NO GO, HAWK! ALL THAT INSULAT ON MAKES THAT ICE CREAM TRUCK LIKE AN ARMORED CAR!
GO FOR THE TIRES ON THE CADDY!
RIGHT!
THUP! THUP!
RAT-A-TAT-TAT-TAT


--BLOW!
HAUL OUT THE TOW CABLE. WE'LL GET THIS EIGHTEEN WHEELER TO PULL THE ARC UPRIGHT
I GET IT. TRAINING MANEUVERS RIGHT? EVERYTHING WAS SIMULATED RIGHT?
GOSH, YOU'RE SMART. SAW RIGHT THROUGH US. JUST CLIMB BACK IN THE CAB AND PULL US RIGHT SIDE UP AND WE'LL GET THIS SIMULATION OUT OF YOUR WAY AND DOWN THE ROAD
HUH?
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA WHAT KIND OF TROUBLE YOU'RE IN? OR IS YOUR CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM TOO PRIMITIVE TO REGISTER THIS INPUT?
THE DOES KNOW YOUR CIVILIAN ADDRESS. THE'LL SOON KNOW OTHER NASTY FACTS ABOUT YOU
THEY MIGHT EVEN FIND OUT WHAT YOU WERE CARRYING FOR DR VENOM IN THAT BRIEF CASE
YOU'VE GOT NO CHOICE. YOU'VE GOT TO TRAVEL
FOR REASONS OF HEALTH
OVER HERE! WOW, DO YOU GUYS EVER RESPOND FAST. WE JUST CALLED IN TO THE FEDS LESS THAN THIRTY SECONDS AGO

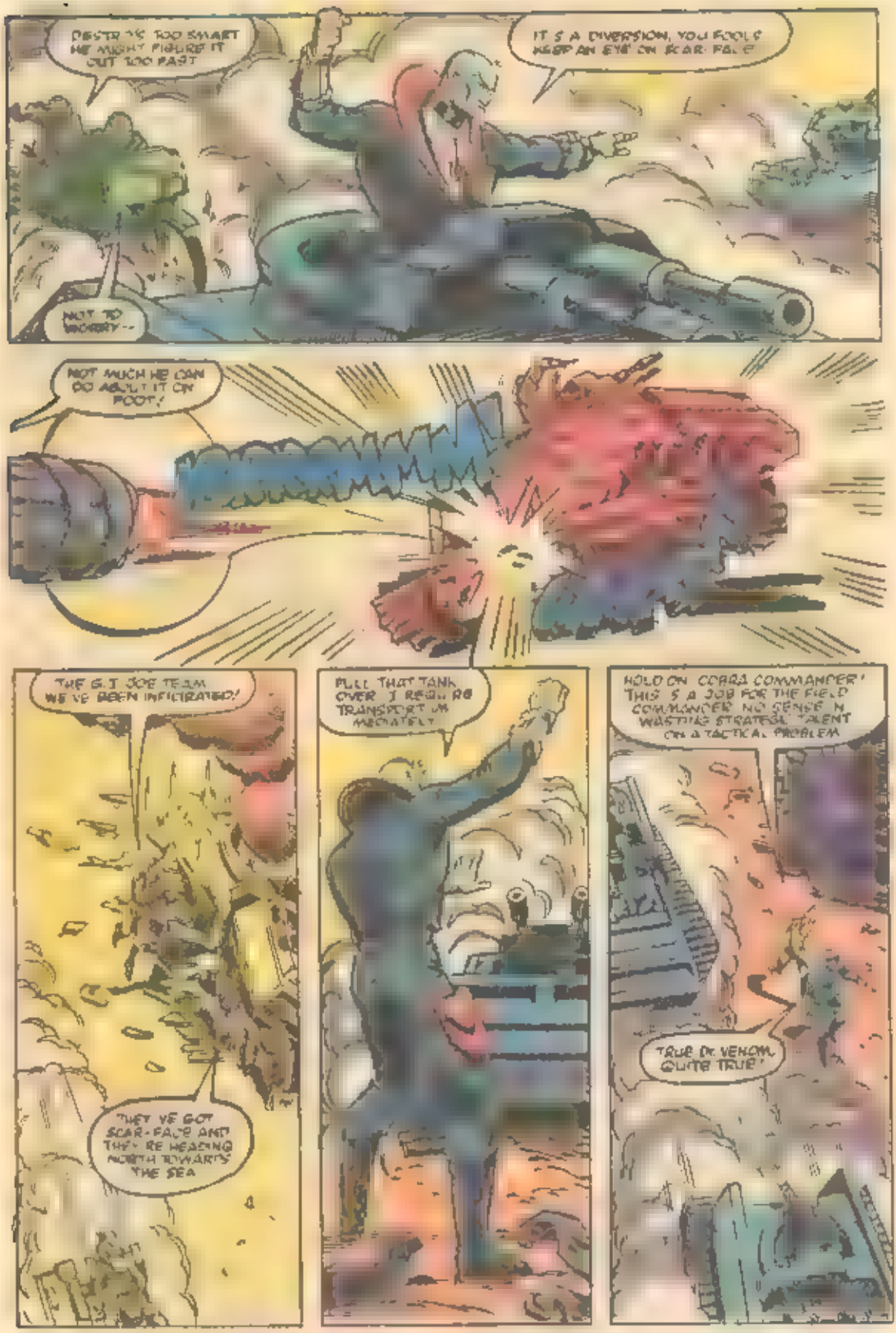

WHAT ARE YOU BABBLING ABOUT?
TWO TERRORISTS! THEY JUST HI-JACKED A JET
--BUT I WILL NEED LANDING CLEARANCE AT TRIPOLI. THIS CAN BE ARRANGED THROUGH COBRA CENTRAL. I WILL ALSO REQUIRE ADVANCE ASSISTANCE AT TRIPOLI
THAT'S RIGHT! I AM IN CONTROL OF THIS AIRCRAFT!
LOAD IT UP GET THE DRAGONFLY, VAMP AND MOTORCYCLE INTO THE TRANSPORT. ACE WILL FLY COVER IN THE SKY-STRIKER
WHO'S GOING ON THIS ONE HAWK?
EVERYONE WHO'S HERE
CLUTCH..
SCARLETT
STALKER
AIRBORNE.
WILD-BILL
ACE
GRUNT
FLASH
ROCK 'N ROLL
LATER
WHAT HAPPENED TO TORPEDO?

I WOULDN'T SAY
WHAT'S HE TALKING ABOUT
TELL ME TWICE HAWK
STEP THIS WAY
FRIEND? WHO?
DR. VENOM
INNOCULATION

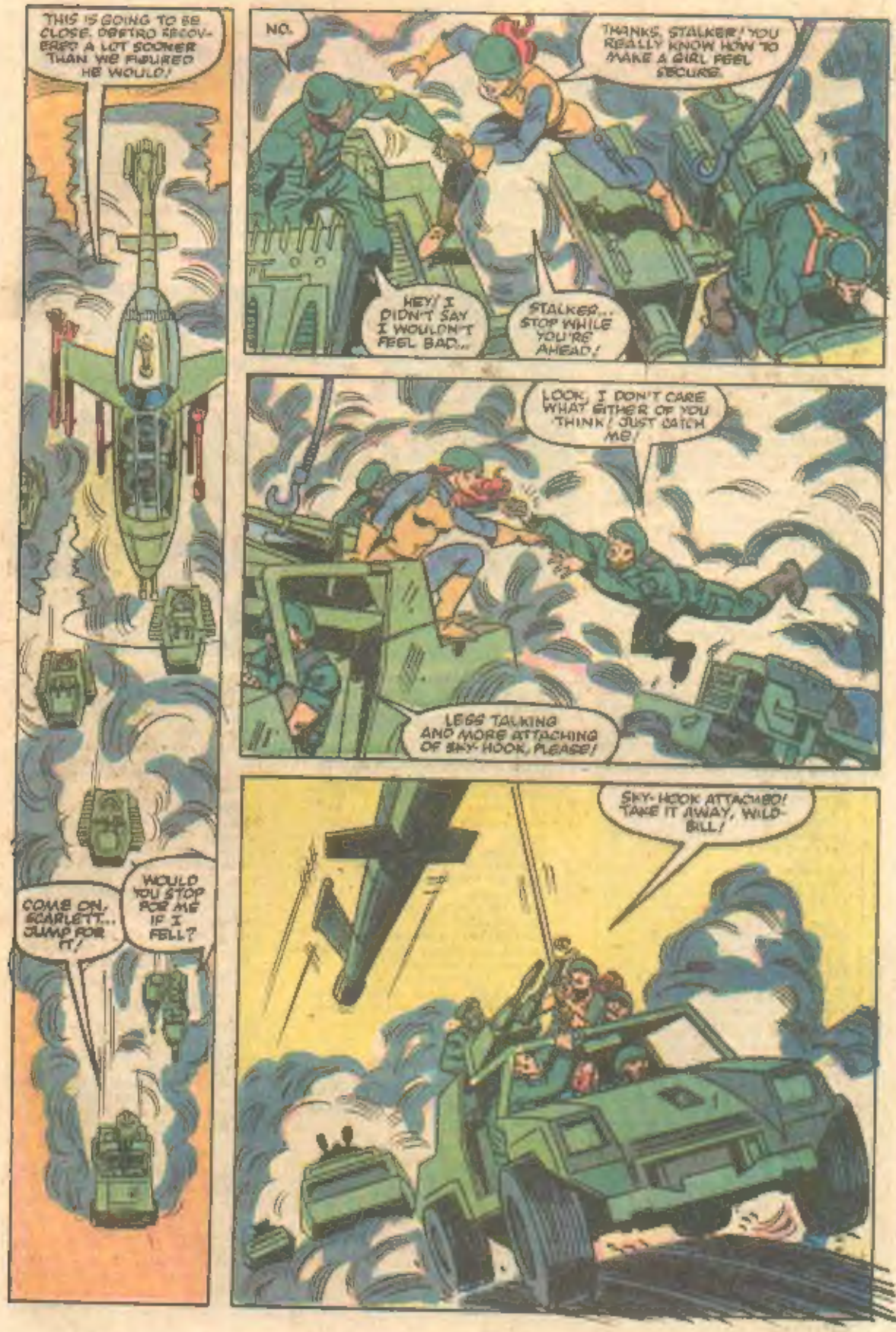

OUR HIGH ALTITUDE AERIAL RECON SHOWS A SECRET COBRA BASE IN THE MIDDLE OF N BYA
IT'S AT A PLACE CALLED MIZDA. 100 MILES SOUTH OF TRIPOLI. IT'S A SAFE BET THAT MIZDA WILL BE SCAR-FACE'S NEXT NATION AFTER TOUCHING DOWN IN TRIPOLI
WE'LL LAND AND DEPLOY JUST NORTH OF MIZDA IN THE DESERT NEAR THE OIL FIELDS
TRIPOLI
SO YOU HAVE SEEN TO IT THAT SCAR FACE HAS BEEN NEUTRALIZED WITH THE TOXIN?
YES COBRA COMMANDER HE'S NOW A BIOLOGICAL TIME-BOMB HE'S DORMANT NOW BUT WITHIN TWO WEEKS HE WILL BE SPREADING AN UNSTOPPABLE INFECTION
THAT WILL ERADICATE EVERY LIVING SOUL IN G I JOE HEADQUARTERS
YES PROVIDING YOU CAN GET HIM INTO G I JOE HEADQUARTERS
WE'LL HAVE TO
IF HE'S NOT IN THEIR HANDS WITHIN FIVE WEEKS, WE'LL HAVE TO KILL HIM OURSELVES

NONSENSE COBRA COMMANDER SOUR FACE'S AS STUPID AS HE APPEARS TO BE THE IGNORANT DO NOT DEDUCE THEY SURMISE
THEY ALSO HAVE NATURAL INSTINCTS AND A PENCHANT FOR SURVIVAL WHAT IF HE MAKES A RUN FOR IT?
WHERE CAN HE GO? HE'S IN THE TURRET OF THE TANK DIRECTLY BEHIND LEAD HE'S SURROUNDED ON ALL SIDES BY HISS TANKS AND LITTLE VEHICLES ANY ATTEMPT TO LEAVE THE COLUMN WILL BE FIRMLY DEALT WITH
HEY! YOU IN THE UTILITY VEHICLE
SORRY TROOPER HARD TO SEE IN ALL THIS DUST YOU KNOW?
YOU'RE DRIFTING TOO CLOSE MAINTAIN YOUR DISTANCE
WELL, CLUTCH... IS THAT THE GUY WHO SHOT YOU IN SAN FRANCISCO?
A FLIPPIN' AFFIRMATIVE I'D RECOGNIZE THAT VOICE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE WEST POINT CHOIR.
I'LL HAVE HIM SING A SONG FOR YOU BUT FIRST I HAVE TO FIND OUT WHAT KEY HIS HEAD IS IN

LOOK SHARP, JOES! CLEAR ALL VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT FROM THE C WO SO IT CAN GO SOMEPLACE ELSE AND BE CONSPICUOUS WHEN ALL YOUR GEAR IS SQUARED AWAY, FALL IN FOR BRIEFING
WHAT'S THERE TO BRIEF US ABOUT? WE GRAB THIS SCAR-FACE AND RUN RIGHT?
OH JUST MINOR THINGS LIKE WHICH DIRECTION TO RUN RIGHT?
YOU SAID IT
GUESS I BETTER LISTEN REAL GOOD, HUH?
SHORTLY
SO AFTER THE ASSAULT ELEMENT GAINS CONTROL OF THE OBJECTIVE I WILL DISENGAGE THE ENEMY AND COMBINE WITH THE SECURITY ELEMENT OR MECHANIZED WITHDRAWAL FROM TARGET AREA
WHY CAN'T HE JUST SAY
IN FUN
THIS IS ACE CALLING WILD BILL. I HAVE VISUAL CONTACT WITH COBRA ARMORED COLUMN ENROUTE FROM TRIPOLI TO MISDA
THEY ARE TEN MILES NORTH OF YOUR POSITION AND CLOSING FAST
YOU HEAR THAT HAWK! THE CHICKENS ARE COMIN' HOME TO ROOST!
THEY'RE COMIN HOME TO A BARBECUE, WILD BILL
I THINK SCAR-FACE SUSPECTS SOMETHING


DESTRO'S TOO SMART HE MIGHT FIGURE IT OUT TOO FAST
IT'S A DIVERSION, YOU FOOLS! KEEP AN EYE ON SCAR-FACE!
NOT TO WORRY--
NOT MUCH HE CAN DO ABOUT IT ON FOOT!
THE G.I. JOE TEAM WE'VE BEEN INFILTRATED!
THEY'VE GOT SCAR-FACE AND THEY'RE HEADING NORTH TOWARDS THE SEA
PULL THAT TANK OVER! I REQUIRE IMMEDIATE TRANSPORT!
HOLD ON, COBRA COMMANDER! THIS IS A JOB FOR THE FIELD COMMANDER! NO SENSE IN WASTING STRATEGIC TALENT ON A TACTICAL PROBLEM.
TRUE, DR. VENOM. QUITE TRUE!

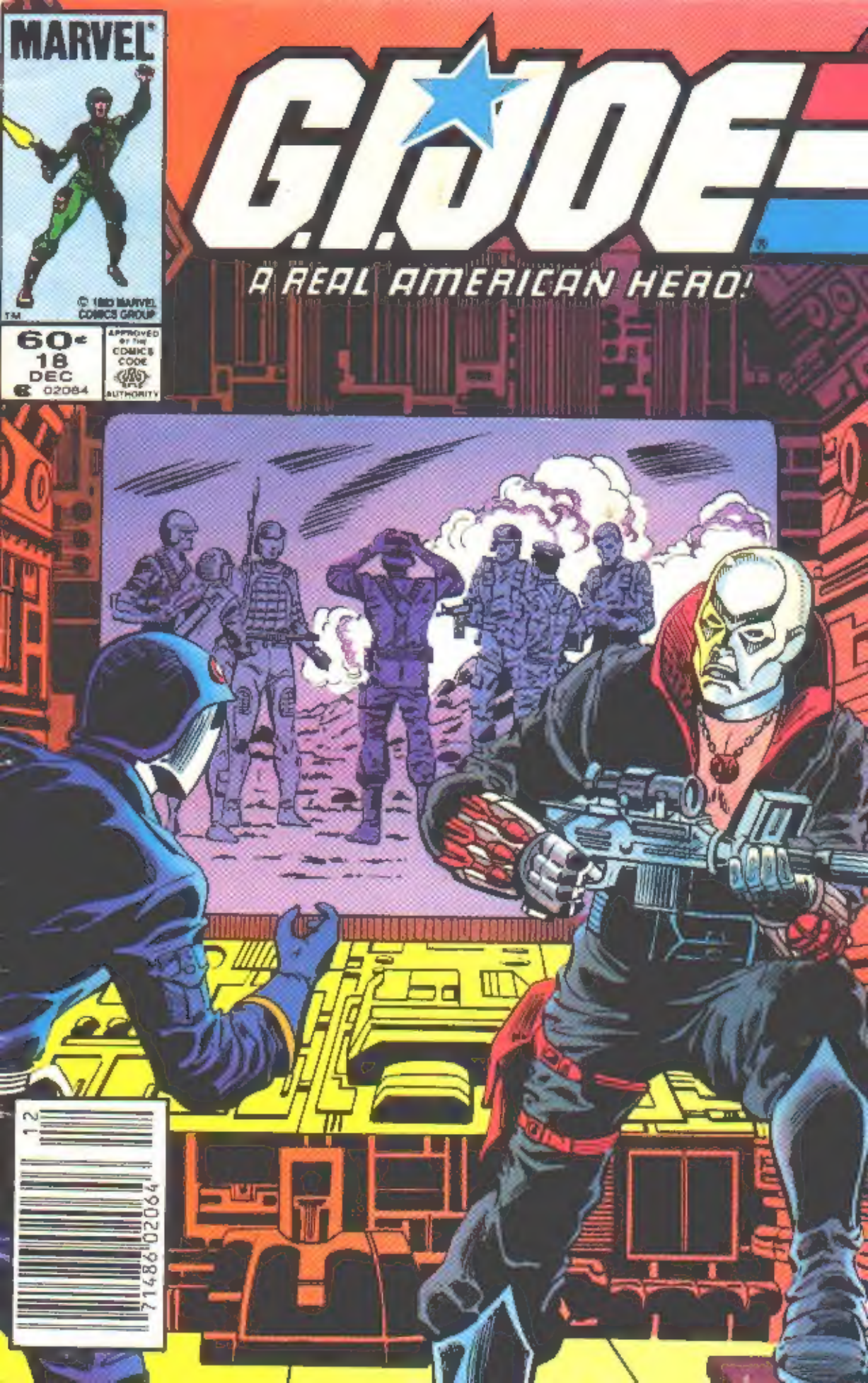
BONK!
C-FLAT!
HAWK JUST BEANED SCARFACE AND HAULED HIM ONTO THE VAMP...
TIME TO BEGIN OUR STRAFING RUN. REMEMBER, DON'T HIT ANYTHING! WE WON'T BE ABLE TO TELL WHO'S WHO ONCE THE SCRAMBLE STARTS!
MAN, MISSING ON PURPOSE IS HARDER THAN HITTING SOMETHING WITH AN ELECTRIC GATTLING GUN...
BRRR


THIS IS GOING TO BE CLOSE. DR. TRO RECOVERED A LOT SOONER THAN WE FIGURED HE WOULD!
COME ON, SCARLETT... JUMP FOR IT!
WOULD YOU STOP FOR ME IF I FELL?
NO.
THANKS, STALKER! YOU REALLY KNOW HOW TO MAKE A GIRL FEEL SECURE.
HEY! I DIDN'T SAY I WOULDN'T FEEL BAD...
STALKER... STOP WHILE YOU'RE AHEAD!
LOOK, I DON'T CARE WHAT EITHER OF YOU THINK! JUST CATCH ME!
LESS TALKING AND MORE ATTACHING OF SKY-HOOK, PLEASE!
SKY-HOOK ATTACHED! TAKE IT AWAY, WILD-BILL!

NEXT ISSUE:

JOE TRIUMPHS!

--BUT A JOE DIES...


MARVEL
© 1983 MARVEL COMICS GROUP
TM
60¢
18
DEC
02064
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
G.I.JOE
A REAL AMERICAN HERO!
12
71486-02064